

## Safety Advisory Committee

February 1, 2013

1:30 – 3:00 PM

### Minutes

Committee Member	Representing	Present
Anderson, Erik	Materials Sciences Division	
Bello, Madelyn	Human Resources Advisor	
Blodgett, Paul M.	Environment, Health and Safety Division	
Christensen, John N.	Earth Sciences Division	X
Dardin, Steve	Physics Division	X
Floyd, Jim	Safety Advisory Committee Chair	X
Franaszek, Stephen	Genomics Division	
Fujikawa, Brian	Nuclear Science Division	
Giuntoli, Patricia	Computing Sciences Directorate	X
Lukens Jr., Wayne W.	Chemical Sciences Division	X
Lunden, Melissa	Environmental Energy Technologies Division	
Martin, Michael C.	Advanced Light Source Division	X
More, Anil V.	Office of the CFO Advisor	
Sauter, Nicholas	Physical Biosciences Division	X
Seidl, Peter	Accelerator & Fusion Research Division	X
Taylor, Scott E.	Life Sciences Division	
Tomaselli, Ann	Information Technology Division	X
Tucker, Eugene	Facilities Division	X
Thomas, Patricia M.	Safety Advisory Committee Secretary	X
Wong, Weyland	Engineering Division	

**Others Present:** Michael Carr, Joe Dionne, Michael Kritscher, Andrew Peterson, Nancy Rothermich, Mike Ruggieri, Mark Scott, Theresa Triplett, Tammy Welcome, Bill Wells, Marty White

#### General Comments – Jim Floyd

- **New Representatives** – Steve Dardin was introduced as the Representative for Physics Division. Next month, Hendrik Bluhm will be replacing Wayne Lukens as the Chemical Sciences Division Representative.
- **Issues Pipeline** – At our March meeting, we are expecting updates on Hazardous Materials Transportation, Controlled Substances, and the CHESS database development. SAC members are also interested in hearing about engineered nanoparticles and the reporting system for purchases of materials categorized as National Fire Protection Association Health Hazard 3 or greater. Other issues under development include: the conduct of operations plan, electrical equipment safety, and reformatting of the safety manual.

- **Old Business** – The Area PPE policy has been approved by the Lab Director. There will be an implementation pilot test in selected Divisions over the next 2 quarters. The Incident Investigation charter is waiting for the Lab Director's signature.

### **Communications – Joe Dionne and Arthur Patterson**

Monthly articles about electrical safety inspections will be sent to key personnel (Building Managers, Division Directors, Principle Investigators, Division Safety Coordinators, Lab Managers, Electrical Equipment Surveyors).

The EHSS Division newsletter is being distributed and used by a larger audience beyond EHSS.

A Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Forum was created. Over 25 responses have been received. Glen Kubiak has inspected the problem areas reported. A road hazard quiz was also created to raise awareness. There was a comment that bicycle rules in some states do not require stopping at stop signs, so awareness needs to be raised about the California requirement.

Communications methods need to be expanded – Today at Berkeley Lab is not read by everyone, and one-time messages are not enough. The Lab population has about 25% annual turnover. A Division Safety Coordinator resource center is planned to provide information on topics of interest for Division safety meetings and newsletters.

There were comments about the Lab Alert phone system. If text messages are received on personal phones, the recipients are responsible for the charges. Lab Alert should be used for emergency messages only.

Brown bag sessions have been poorly attended.

### **Risk Management**

**Biosafety – Mike Martin** – A team has been formed and they are categorizing work functions by the Work Planning and Control hazard levels. A draft list will be reviewed at the March SAC meeting.

**Low-Level Radiation – John Christensen** – The policy development is proceeding slowly and carefully.

**Corrective Action Tracking System (CATS) – Howard Hatayama** – The team is asking broader questions about the purpose of Issues management. CATS is one piece of the feedback loop to help improve operations and avoid significant events. The team is developing a flowchart of the ideal process. The CATS system should provide benefits to users. For further information, you may contact Theresa Triplett.

**Protective Services/ Fire Protection – Joe Dionne and Allen Benitez**

The creation of a Protective Services Department in the Operations Division became effective February 1. The new department will continue to work closely with EHSS and Facilities. They will use requirements management and communications processes developed under EHSS. The subject matter points of contact and system for requesting services through the Work Request Center have not changed. Protective Services includes the Security, Emergency Management, and Fire Protection functions:

- **Security** will include alarm systems, controlled substances management, and access control. There have been some problems with too many alarms from doors being held open. The controlled substances program will be revamped to include system upgrades and awareness. There are several databases and approval systems that feed into the electronic access control system. Site Access will not control the access rights, but will help coordinate the systems. The grand master keys may be replaced with smart keys that can be deactivated.
- **Emergency Management** initiatives include a hazards survey, developing a Continuity of Operations Plan, and improved planning for off-site work.
- **Fire Protection** is catching up on a backlog of Fire Protection Assessments and Fire Hazard Assessments. They are finding about 14 issues per building. They are developing a risk/benefit prioritization of the findings before sharing them with the Building Managers. The most common findings are related to flammable/combustible chemical storage, blocked/impaired egress, flammable materials used for gas cylinder straps, and hot work.

**Electrical Safety – Mark Scott**

Mark Scott has been working with the Electrical Safety Subcommittee to re-energize electrical safety culture at LBNL. Our awareness of the need to improve electrical safety was sparked by the arc-flash accident at Stanford Linear Accelerator. From 2005 – 2007, we rolled out the NFPA-70E requirements implementation. From 2007 – 2011, we had a compliance-driven program. This approach required excessive policing, which frustrated users and left the electricians feeling caught in the middle between EHS requirements and users' needs. The effectiveness was marginal.

In 2011, we began the transition to a culture-driven program. Compliance still exists in the background. The emphasis is on being able to explain hazards and controls with rational arguments people can understand, and to share stories about potential consequences. The objective is to prevent injuries through proactive controls. The new DOE handbook will guide this approach. We want to achieve compliance by educating people and promoting safety culture.

The scope of the electrical safety program includes both work practices and equipment safety. Progress is being made:

- The Electrical Safety Subcommittee is being refreshed with an expanded membership, including more representation from users, and an updated charter.
- 27% of high-risk electrical equipment has been inspected.
- The subcontractor LOTO permit program was improved, resulting in fewer incidents. There have been no LOTO-related ORPS since August. The improved training is working.

Plans for additional improvements include:

- Chapter 18 Lockout/Tagout will be revised. Mark Scott is looking for people from science divisions to join the Working Group.
- Training will be restructured. . The message needs to reach both qualified electrical workers and other people who work with electrical equipment. Most of the injuries have involved non-electrical workers.
- There will be educational activities during May for electrical safety month.
- Chapter 8 Electrical Safety will undergo minor changes this year, and a major revision next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM

Respectfully submitted, Patricia M. Thomas, SAC Secretary